

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 /093 W

-----251451Z 039169 /43

P R 251413Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8502

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 6540

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE, TZ, ZA

SUBJECT: MEDIATION OF KENYA-TANZANIA DISPUTE

REF: NAIROBI 5379, NAIROBI 6385, STATE 117997

1. IN LIGHT OF REPORTS REFTELS ABOUT KENYAN INITIATIVES TO INVOLVE OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN MEDIATING KENYAN PROBLEMS WITH TANZANIA, ESPECIALLY TANZANIA'S CLOSURE OF BORDER AND SEIZURE OF KENYAN VEHICLES, I ASKED FOREIGN MINISTER WAIYAKI ON MAY 24 WHETHER THERE WERE ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS VIS-A-VIS TANZANIA. WAIYAKI SAID KENYA BELIEVED ONE WAY OF WORKING

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ON A SOCIALIST LIKE NYERERE WAS TO USE ANOTHER SOCIALIST TO APPROACH HIM. TO THIS END, KENYA HAD ASKED ETHIOPIA TO MEDIATE, THEREBY ALSO HOPING TO COUNTERACT SUSPECTED TANZANIAN EFFORTS TO DISCREDIT KENYA WITH EPMG AND TO CEMENT KENYAN-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS. WAIYAKI DID NOT, HOWEVER, MENTION REPORTED APPROACHES OF NIGERIA AND EGYPT.

2. IN EXPOUNDING ON TANZANIA, WAIYAKI SAID HE UNDER-STOOD THAT ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA IS "BROWNED OFF WITH MWALIMU (NYERERE)" OVER EFFECTS OF BORDER CLOSURE ON KENYA-ZAMBIA ECONOMIC RELATIONS. ACCORDING TO WAIYAKI, KAUNDA REPORTEDLY ASKED NYERERE WHO HE WAS TRYING TO PUNISH: KENYA OR ZAMBIA? ZAMBIA HAS BEEN SENDING AIR FORCE TRANSPORTS TO KENYA TO BUY MEAT FOR ITS ARMY, SINCE FOODSTUFFS CAN NO LONGER COME BY ROAD. OTHER GOODS PREVIOUSLY BOUGHT FROM KENYA ARE SIMILARLY AFFECTED, AND ZAMBIA IS ALSO ANNOYED THAT MOZAMBIQUE HAS INCREASED ITS CHARGES FOR GOODS IN TRANSIT TO ZAMBIA. AS WAIYAKI TELLS IT, TANZANIA HAD A HAND IN ENGINEERING THESE INCREASES, THUS MAKING ZAMBIA ALL THE MORE DEPENDENT ON THE PORT OF DAR ES SALAAM. WAIYAKI SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT TANZANIA ITSELF IS AFFECTED BY CLOSURE OF BORDER, AND HAS BEEN TRYING TO SUBSTITUTE FOR KENYAN SOURCES OF CERTAIN GOODS BY BUYING THEM IN MALAWI. WAIYAKI SNORTED AND SAID TANZANIA MUST KNOW THAT IN MANY CASES THESE GOODS WERE OF SOUTH AFRICAN ORIGIN.

3. COMMENT: WAIYAKI'S REMARKS ON TANZANIA ARE NECESSARILY SOMEWHAT BIASED, BUT WE FIND IT INTERESTING THAT HIS FOCUS SEEMS TO BE SO MUCH ON ECONOMIC IMPACT OF BORDER CLOSURE. HIS NEW FASCINATION WITH MIDDLE EAST IS IN PART EXPLAINED BY SEARCH FOR MARKETS TO REPLACE THOSE CUT OFF BY TANZANIA.

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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